



CONCERNING THE CORONAVIRUS / COVID-19 PANDEMIC
UPDATED: APRIL 7, 2020

A link to an informational page on coronavirus in Virginia has been established on the City's webpage:
<https://www.martinsville-va.gov/>

Both Governor Northam and President Trump have proclaimed state and national emergencies, and the City has declared a local emergency. Restaurants and bars are restricted to take-out and delivery service. Non-essential businesses are limited to TEN customers at a time. Persons over age 65 are directed to self-quarantine. Gatherings of over TEN people are prohibited. Citizens are encouraged to remain at home. This order is in effect in Virginia through June 10.

More information on the Governor's orders, what is an essential business, and guidance on social distancing, may be found at <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/executive-actions/>

City public safety personnel: Police, Sheriff, Fire and EMS, are authorized to enforce the Governor's orders.

Governor Northam has ordered all K-12 public schools closed through the end of this school year. For detailed information concerning Martinsville City Public Schools, including instruction-at-home, please visit <https://www.martinsville.k12.va.us/>.

The Supreme Court of Virginia has limited operation of Virginia's state and local courts:
http://www.courts.state.va.us/2020_0316_scv_order_declaration_of_judicial_emergency.pdf

BY COURT ORDER, ALL PERSONS COMING TO COURT WILL BE SCREENED FOR FEVER, AND ASKED A SERIES OF QUESTIONS REGARDING TRAVEL AND ANY HEALTH SYMPTOMS. ONLY ESSENTIAL OR EMERGENCY COURT ACTIONS ARE BEING ALLOWED.

The City of Martinsville has cancelled all events through April 26, which include:

- All budget work sessions, which will be rescheduled
- Parks & Recreation Events and Rentals, although City parks remain open to the public
- Martinsville Fire-EMS tours/events/public visitors/ smoke alarm and car seat installations
- Martinsville Police tours/events and Neighborhood Watch meetings
- No new special event permits will be issued

The City Council meeting on April 14th will occur as scheduled, however public attendance will be limited in accordance with the Governor's order. There will be no "Business From The Floor." Citizens desiring to make comments for Council's consideration should submit the information to Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council at kroberts@ci.martinsville.va.us no later than noon, April 14th. Comments may also be called in to 276-403-5182.

Other than Court, City Hall is closed to the public until further notice.

To the greatest extent possible, citizens should utilize online resources for payments, permit applications, and for any other purpose where online service is available. This advice applies to City transactions and private commercial transactions as well.

Persons still needing to make direct payments or applications at City Hall may use the following methods:

All tax and billing payments:	please use online payments, drive-thru window, or dropbox
Commissioner of Revenue:	call 276.403.5131
Voter registration:	call 276.403.5122
Utility service connections:	call (276)403-5146, or email utilitybilling@ci.martinsville.va.us
Building permits:	call (276) 403-5173
Building inspection requests:	call (276) 403-5365
ALL OTHER INQUIRIES:	call (276) 403-5180 & use # directory
CITY WEBSITE:	https://www.martinsville-va.gov/

All essential City services: Police, Fire and EMS protection, trash collection, and utility services remain in operation but are not open to the public.

The City will not cut off any delinquent utility accounts and will not charge late fees until May 18.

Local food banks remain open. If a person is in need for food they can text the word "Food" or "Comida" to 877877. For local charitable resources, citizens in need may call 1-866-211-9966 and provide their zip code, to be given a list of local agencies to provide assistance. The United Way has a COVID-19 Community Economic Relief Fund, and will help with bills, rent and food.

Beginning April 8, Coronavirus testing is available at the Martinsville Speedway, Monday Wednesday and Friday from 12 noon to 4 p.m.. A REFERRAL FROM A DOCTOR, HEALTH PROVIDER OR URGENT CARE FACILITY IS REQUIRED.

DO NOT CALL FOR 911 FOR NON-EMERGENCY PURPOSES. Contact your primary care provider or use available telemedicine resources as the first line of defense. If presenting COVID-19-like symptoms (fever, cough shortness of breath), calling 911 may result in a recommendation for self-care at home.

REMINDER: Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) can include fever, cough, shortness of breath (symptoms may appear 2- 14 days after exposure.) If you are experiencing life-threatening symptoms or are having an emergency, please call 9-1-1 and answer all questions as prompted. For non-emergency questions concerning Coronavirus, contact the Health Department at (276) 638-2311

TIPS TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY SAFE:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw tissue in the trash.